

Amendments of the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

1-33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently Amended) A video recorder configured to solve a tuner conflict, the video recorder comprising:

at least one television tuner ~~that is in a network of tuners, the at least one television tuner being~~ configured to receive a plurality of shows;

a storage device coupled to the at least one television tuner, the storage device being configured to store a plurality of the received shows; and

a conflict manager configured to:

maintain a list of shows that are scheduled for storage on the storage device using the at least one tuner;

determine that there is a tuner conflict based on the maintained list of shows when: ~~(1) at least two of the shows are scheduled for storage on the storage device using the at least one tuner at the same time, and (2) the at least two shows are pending issuance of a storage command before being stored on the storage device;~~

~~determine, before issuance of the storage command, an availability of at least one other tuner in the network of tuners in response to the determination that there is the tuner conflict;~~

generate a plurality of solutions to the tuner conflict without further action by a user, each solution ~~corresponding to a storage schedule that comprises~~ comprising a subset of the shows in the maintained list, by:

determining which of the shows in the maintained list conflict with a given one of the shows;

generating a plurality of candidate solutions, each candidate solution comprising a subset of the conflicting shows; and

determining, for each of the plurality of candidate solutions, whether removal of the subset of the conflicting shows from the maintained list solves the tuner conflict; and

~~issue the storage command to initiate the storage of shows according to the storage schedule corresponding to one of the plurality of~~ candidate solutions using the at least one other tuner in the network of tuners determined to solve the tuner conflict.

35. (Currently Amended) The video recorder of claim 34, wherein the conflict manager is further configured to determine an availability of at least one other tuner in ~~the~~ a network of tuners by querying the network for another available tuner.

36. (Previously Presented) The video recorder of claim 34, wherein the conflict manager is further configured to:

receive a request to store a further show to the storage device; and

assign a priority to the further show.

37. (Previously Presented) The video recorder of claim 36, wherein the conflict manager is further configured to evaluate the plurality of solutions by comparing the assigned priority of the further show to priorities associated with the shows in the plurality of solutions.

38. (Currently Amended) The video recorder of claim 37, wherein the conflict manager is further configured to

~~eliminate~~ select at least one solution if each of the shows in ~~the storage schedule corresponding to~~ the at least one solution has a lower priority than the priority assigned to the further show.

39. (Currently Amended) The video recorder of claim [[37]] 38, wherein the conflict manager is further configured to cancel the recording of each of the shows in ~~the storage schedule corresponding to~~ the at least one ~~eliminated~~ selected solution.

40. (Currently Amended) The video recorder of claim [[36]] 34, wherein the conflict manager is further configured to provide the user with the opportunity to cancel at least one show from one of the plurality of solutions.

41. (Currently Amended) The video recorder of claim [[36]] 34, wherein the conflict manager is further configured to search through an interactive program guide to determine if one of the shows in the maintained list is available to record at a later time.

42. (Previously Presented) The video recorder of claim 41, wherein the conflict manager is further configured to reschedule the recording of the program to the later time based on the determination.

43. (Currently Amended) A method for solving a tuner conflict, the method comprising:

receiving a plurality of shows on at least one television tuner ~~that is in a network of television tuners;~~

maintaining a list of shows that are scheduled to be stored on a storage device, the storage device being coupled to the at least one television tuner and configured to store a plurality of the received shows;

determining that there is a tuner conflict based on the maintained list of shows when: ~~(1)~~ at least two of the shows are scheduled for storage on the storage device using the at least one tuner at the same time, ~~and (2) the at least two shows are pending issuance of a storage command before being stored;~~

~~determining, before issuance of the storage command, an availability of at least one other tuner in the network of~~

~~tuners in response to determining that there is the tuner~~
~~conflict,~~

generating a plurality of solutions to the tuner
conflict without further action by a user, each solution
~~corresponding to a storage schedule that comprises~~ comprising a
subset of the shows in the maintained list, by:

determining which of the shows in the maintained
list conflict with a given one of the shows;

generating a plurality of candidate solutions,
each candidate solution comprising a subset of the conflicting
shows; and

determining, for each of the plurality of
candidate solutions, whether removal of the subset of the
conflicting shows from the maintained list solves the tuner
conflict; and

~~issuing the storage command to initiate~~ initiating
the storage of shows on the storage device according to ~~the~~
~~storage schedule corresponding to~~ one of the plurality of
candidate solutions ~~using the at least one other tuner in the~~
~~network of tuners~~ determined to solve the tuner conflict.

44. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 43, further comprising determining an availability of at least one other tuner in ~~the~~ a network of tuners by querying the network for another available tuner.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, further comprising:

receiving a request to store a further show to the storage device; and

assigning a priority to the further show.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising evaluating the plurality of solutions by comparing the assigned priority of the further show to priorities associated with the shows in the plurality of solutions.

47. (Currently Amended) The method claim 46, further comprising ~~eliminating~~ selecting at least one solution if each of the shows in ~~the storage schedule corresponding to~~ the at least one solution has a lower priority than the priority assigned to the further show.

48. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, further comprising cancelling the recording of each of the shows in ~~the storage schedule corresponding to~~ the at least one ~~eliminated~~ selected solution.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, further comprising providing the user with the opportunity to cancel at least one show from one of the plurality of solutions.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the priority associated with one show in the maintained list of shows is established by comparing the length of the one show to each of the other shows in the maintained list.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the priority associated with one show in the maintained list of shows is established based on whether the show was scheduled for recording manually or automatically.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, wherein determining that there is a tuner conflict further comprises determining if there is a conflict between a plurality of series.

53. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 52, further comprising ~~eliminating~~ selecting at least one solution if at least one show in ~~the storage schedule corresponding to~~ the at least one solution is part of the series and is a repeat.

54. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[43]]~~ 45, wherein the priority associated with one show in the maintained list of shows is established based on whether the one show is currently being recorded to the storage device.

55. (Currently Amended) Computer readable storage media comprising instructions for solving a tuner conflict by:
receiving a plurality of shows on at least one television tuner ~~that is in a network of television tuners~~;
maintaining a list of shows that are scheduled to be stored on a storage device, the storage device being coupled to

the at least one television tuner and configured to store a plurality of the received shows;

determining that there is a tuner conflict based on the maintained list of shows when: ~~(1) at least two of the shows are scheduled for storage on the storage device using the at least one tuner at the same time, and (2) the at least two shows are pending issuance of a storage command before being~~ stored;

~~determining, before issuance the storage command, an availability of at least one other tuner in the network of tuners in response to determining that there is the tuner conflict,~~

generating a plurality of solutions to the tuner conflict without further action by a user, each solution ~~corresponding to a storage schedule that comprises~~ comprising a subset of the shows in the maintained list, by:

determining which of the shows in the maintained list conflict with a given one of the shows;

generating a plurality of candidate solutions, each candidate solution comprising a subset of the conflicting shows; and

determining, for each of the plurality of
candidate solutions, whether removal of the subset of the
conflicting shows from the maintained list solves the tuner
conflict; and

~~issuing the storage command to initiate~~ initiating
the storage of shows on the storage device according to ~~the~~
~~storage schedule corresponding to one of the plurality of~~
candidate solutions ~~using the at least one other tuner in the~~
~~network of tuners~~ determined to solve the tuner conflict.

56. (Currently Amended) The computer readable
storage media of claim 55, further comprising instructions for
determining an availability of at least one other tuner in ~~the~~
a network of tuners by querying the network for another
available tuner.

57. (Previously Presented) The computer readable
storage media of claim 55, further comprising instructions for:
receiving a request to store a further show to
the storage device; and
assigning a priority to the further show.

58. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage media of claim 57, further comprising instructions for evaluating the plurality of solutions by comparing the assigned priority of the further show to priorities associated with the shows in the plurality of solutions.

59. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage media of claim 58, further comprising instructions for ~~eliminating~~ selecting at least one solution if each of the shows in the storage schedule corresponding to the at least one solution has a lower priority than the priority assigned to the further show.

60. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage media of claim 59, further comprising instructions for cancelling the recording of each of the shows in ~~the storage schedule corresponding to~~ the at least one ~~eliminated~~ selected solution.

61. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage media of claim 55, further comprising instructions for

providing the user with the opportunity to cancel at least one show from one of the plurality of solutions.

62. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage media of claim 57, further comprising instructions for establishing the priority associated with one show in the maintained list of shows by comparing the length of the one show to each of the other shows in the maintained list.

63. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage media of claim 57, further comprising instructions for establishing the priority associated with one show in the maintained list of shows based on whether the show was scheduled for recording manually or automatically.

64. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage media of claim 55, further comprising instructions for determining that there is a tuner conflict by determining if there is a conflict between a plurality of series.

65. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage media of claim 64, further comprising instructions for

~~eliminating~~ selecting at least one solution if at least one show in ~~the storage schedule corresponding to~~ the at least one solution is part of the series and is a repeat.

66. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage media of claim 57, further comprising instructions for establishing the priority associated with one show in the maintained list of shows based on whether the one show is currently being recorded to the storage device.

67. (Currently Amended) The video recorder of claim 35, wherein the conflict manager is further configured to initiate the storage of shows using the at least one other tuner in the network of tuners ~~according to the storage schedule.~~

68. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 44, further comprising initiating the storage of shows using the at least one other tuner in the network of tuners ~~according to the storage schedule.~~

Appl. No. 10/605,246
Final Office Action of 7/7/09
Amendment dated: 03/30/10

69. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage media of claim 56, further comprising instructions for initiating the storage of shows using the at least one other tuner in the network of tuners ~~according to the storage schedule.~~